

Detection of Data Exfiltration via Removable Media, Detection Strategy DET0123

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AN0342

Detects removable drive insertion followed by unusual file access, compression, or staging activity by unauthorized users or unexpected processes.

Log Sources

Mutable Elements

Field	Description
DriveTypeFilter	Filter on removable (e.g., USB) drives only.
ProcessNameExclusionList	Exclude known, approved backup or sync utilities.
TimeWindow	Limit correlation of file access and device mount to a defined window (e.g., <5 minutes).

AN0343

Detects mounted external devices (via /media or /mnt) followed by large file read or copy operations by shell scripts, unauthorized users, or staging tools (e.g., tar, rsync).

Log Sources

Mutable Elements

Field	Description
MountPointPattern	Monitor mount points like /media, /mnt, or /run/media.
UserGroupScope	Restrict detection to non-root or unexpected users.
AccessVolumeThreshold	Alert on large file access or copy events.

AN0344

Detects mounting of external volumes followed by high-volume or sensitive file access via Finder, terminal, or third-party apps (e.g., rsync, zip).

Log Sources

Mutable Elements

Field	Description
VolumeNamePattern	Detect suspicious or unrecognized drive labels (e.g., UNTITLED, BACKUP_VOL).
ProcessOrigin	Detect CLI-based copy operations vs. expected GUI usage.
UserSessionCheck	Alert if process and session context are mismatched (e.g., script from screensaver context).

Source: <https://attack.mitre.org/detectionstrategies/DET0123#AN0342>